

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 0008 with the following amended paragraph:

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[0008] In another aspect, the invention relates to methods of inserting into a patient one of the ureteral stents mentioned above. One method includes the step of passing a guide wire through the ureter and into the kidney[.], and [[T]] thereafter[.,] coaxially sliding a stent over the guide wire and into the ureter by using a tubular stent pusher. One alternate method includes placing a stent with a closed kidney end over a guide wire, and then advancing the stent into the ureter by pushing the guide wire. According to another embodiment, the stent is inserted from the kidney downward through the ureter and into the bladder.